Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /069 W

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R 181526Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6683

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

CONFIDENTIAL LONDON 16517

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, SF, UK

SUBJECT: BRITISH INTEREST IN REPRESENTATION TO SOUTH AFRICA OVER ISSUE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS

REF: LONDON 15788

- 1. DECEMBER 17, HEAD OF FCO CENTRAL AND SOUTH AFRICAN DEPARTMENT, MARTIN REED, CONTACTED EMBASSY TO ASK WHETHER US HAD MADE ANY REPRESENTATIONS TO SOUTH AFRICA OVER THE ISSUE OF RELEASING POLITICAL PRISONERS. HE SAID THAT HE HAD PROPOSED SUCH ACTION AT A MEETING OF EUROPEAN COMMUNITY FOREIGN OFFICE AFRICAN EXPERTS LAST WEEK, AND RECEIVED MIXED REACTIONS. SOME FELT IT A GOOD IDEA AND MOST EFFECTIVE JUST NOW, SOON AFTER THE VETO OF EXPULSION OF SOUTH AFRICA FROM THE U.N. OTHERS, INCLUDING FRANCE, DISAGREED, AS THEY BELIEVED THIS COULD BE CONSTRUED TO BE INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF ANOTHER COUNTRY.
- 2. REED SAID THAT UK GOVERNMENT WAS STRONGLY IN FAVOR OF CONFIDENTIAL

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SUCH WRITTEN OR ORAL REPRESENTATION IF ONLY FOR PUBLIC

RELATIONS VALUE WITH BLACK AFRICANS, EVEN IF DONE INFORMALLY, AND WONDERED WHAT USG ATTITUDE WAS ON THIS ISSUE. HE WAS NOT AWARE WHETHER UK AMBASSADOR HAD DISCUSSED MATTER WITH AMBASSADOR HURD OR NOT.

3. REQUEST DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE FOR FCO.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: APARTHEID, POLICIES, MEETINGS, POLITICAL PRISONERS

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Type: TE

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